



# LARC



Volume 49, Number 7

July 2009

## Greetings to All LARC Readers !

As I write this we have just finished Field Day 2009. We had a great time at Danny and Kathy's QTH. It was my first time to visit them and I was really impressed with their set up and their wonderful hospitality. We had a relaxed two days and although we set no records, we sure had a great time.

Many thanks to Weston - KB5WI, Arnold - KE5JXC, Roland - NA5Q, Archie - W5AG, Larry - KE5KJD and Danny - KD5JSM for help in getting us set up and taken down. Greg - K5LF&T was there for pictures, moral support and kept us looking up. I hadn't seen David - N4ELM in a long while. It's always nice to speak to him.

Herman - KN5GRK was there with Field Day brochures and manned the 2 meter talk in for W5DDL. Herman also passed NTS formal traffic to the NTS traffic system.

Thanks to Kathy KD5TJZ and Linda KE5HSY for handling the food chores. Sandy KE5KJF was there for the feeding of the baby blue Jays and helped out.

On Saturday, Archie W5AG did most of the CW work on 20 meters helped out by Nick - KE5MWX who did some logging.

Allen KD5OZJ showed up with three fine young gentlemen and worked some SSB. Perhaps he also planted the seeds for three future ham radio operators.

Archie W5AG and Jim N5NVP worked CW on Sunday and I even logged one or two of Archie's CW contacts.

Other issues: The generator was in a bad mood and kept cutting out. We need to have it checked out by an experienced mechanic. The current thinking is that the carburetor needs overhauling and/or cleaned out. We had to finish Field Day on grid power which put us in a different class than the one with which we began. Oh well.

One purpose of Field Day is to show you where work needs to be done.

We also could not find the Yaesu Rotator controller. If anyone knows where this is, please let us know so we can get it back into AMOS.

Roland and Danny did a good job of cleaning out the storage container. Thanks a bunch. Also, AMOS will now be kept at Danny and Kathy's home instead of at Rick and Joy's. Thank you (once again) Danny and Kathy.

As always, thanks to Calvin for maintaining and driving AMOS.

Several other non-Field Day things:

Dick - WA6MDI has pulled the 147.04 repeater box and taken it in to Service Communications for repair. We should have it back on the air soon. Dick also suggested the club purchase another repeater (used if possible) for a backup. He suggested one identical or similar to the 146.82 repeater (Kenwood??) because it has been a solid work horse.

Karen KE5RPI mentioned that she and Fred W5MLE will soon have their tower up in Carencro. Great news there. I'll bet they can't wait.

Until our next meeting, I'll say thank you to all Field Day participants and see you all again, soon.

P.S. Sorry if I've left anything out....

John Cunniff—W4JHC

AARA President

## Vice President's Message

It looks like Field Day 2009 is now behind us. We hope all that participated in this year's event gained some knowledge in emergency operations. The weather in Acadiana was extremely hot this year (in the triple digits) and humidity made things a little bit on the sweaty side.

The AARA Field Day event was held at the QTH of Danny KD5JSM and Kathy KD5TJZ just off the 101 and 103 exit of I-10. Danny has some large oak and pecan trees that gave us some shade from the blazing sun. The 1A W5DDL operation took place in the AMOS emergency van during the event. At times we had trouble with the generator, but we having "fun", not trying to break any records by competing with other stations.

With my old back giving me some problems, I was limited on my mobility, however, I did manage to set up a talk-in 2 meter station and a ARRL handout table, and originate some formal NTS traffic for a few points.

Greg K5LFT (the club official photographer) did take some pictures and maybe he will give some of them to me to put in the August LARC along with some other Field Day information. Until then!

73's de Herman KN5GRK



## DATES TO REMEMBER

### REGULAR MEETING

Thursday July 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 7:00 PM  
 Red Cross Building - 101 N. Pat St.  
 VE Testing @ 6:00 pm - Door Prizes - Refreshments

### HAMFEST SCHEDULE

Slidell Hamfest— July 18<sup>th</sup>

### Local 2-Meter Nets

#### Sunday

Opelousas Area ARA Net 7:00 PM  
 146.820 Lafayette, LA

#### Monday

AARA Net 7:00 PM  
 146.820 Lafayette, LA  
 Acadia Parish ARES Net 8:00 PM  
 147.240 pl 127.3 Crowley, LA

#### Tuesday

Acadiana ARES Net 7:00 PM  
 145.370 - 600 PL 103.5

#### Wednesday

Vermillion Parish ARES Net 8:00 PM  
 147.060 Abbeville, LA

#### Friday

HEAL Net 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays Only 1:00 PM  
 146.820 Lafayette, LA

### AARA OFFICERS 2009-20010

**President - John Cuniff W4JHC**  
**jhcuniff@cox.net**

**Vice Pres. & Newsletter Editor -**

**Herman Campbell KN5GRK**

**Secretary - Paul Scallan K5VSH**

**Treasurer - Joy Breaux N5YCS**

#### BOARD MEMBERS

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**Nick Romero - KE5MWX**

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**Dagmar Whittemore - KE5CGN**

**QSL Manager**

**Roland Guidry - NA5Q**

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 each month at 7:00 p.m. at the  
 American Red Cross Building  
 101 North Pat Street Scott, LA

## A Tale of Two Tubes

*By Dan Romnanchik, KB6NU*

A couple of weeks ago, I worked N4QR on 40m CW. I could tell by the tone of his signal that he was operating a homebrew transmitter. There wasn't any 60 Hz on his signal, and it didn't chirp exactly, but I could tell it wasn't the pure tone you get out of today's radios.

I asked him about his rig, and he told me that it was a one-tube transmitter made with a 6L6. I forgot to ask him where he got the schematic, but a quick Internet search turned up the following:

\* The May 2005 issue of the K9YA Telegraph (<http://www.k9ya.org>) has an article written by N4QR titled, "The Wonderful One-Tuber," that contains the schematic for the transmitter. The K9YA folks don't make issues of The Telegraph available on their website, but I was able to get a copy of the issue by e-mailing them.

\* A 6L6 Classic (<http://www.io.com/~nielw/6l6/6L6.htm>)

\* WB2MIC 6L6 Transmitter Project ([http://www.metaphoria.us/hamradio/6L6\\_transmitter\\_schematic.htm](http://www.metaphoria.us/hamradio/6L6_transmitter_schematic.htm))

The 6L6 is a pentode that, according to Wikipedia (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/6L6>), was introduced by the Radio Corporation of America (RCA) in July 1936. Apparently, it was used quite a bit in public address systems.

After the tube became successful, tube manufacturers introduced a number of variations, including the venerable 807. The original 6L6 was capable of delivering 19 W; the latest variation, the 6L6GC is rated for 30 W. The 6L6GC is still used in guitar amps, and is still manufactured in Russia, China, and by Groove Tubes ([www.groovetubes.com](http://www.groovetubes.com)) in the U.S. They sell a number of different 6L6 variants; the cheapest is \$16, the most expensive \$180!!

#### Tube #2

One of the reasons I was interested in the 6L6 is because about a year ago I came across a schematic for a transmitter using 6A6 dual triode. I had just come into possession of a couple hundred tubes, and while I didn't have a 6A6 (at least I haven't found one yet), I do have a couple of 6J6 dual triodes. They're not quite as high power as the 6A6, but I'm still thinking about building a little transmitter with one.

As you might expect, there's a bunch of information on the Internet about this tube:

\* The Jones Push-Pull Transmitter ([http://wv7g.home.mindspring.com/jones\\_6j6.html](http://wv7g.home.mindspring.com/jones_6j6.html)) was built with a 6J6 instead of a 6A6.

\* Another schematic can be found on the AK0B website (<http://www.qsl.net/ak0b/>).

\* 6J6 data sheet (<http://www.gargnas.net:3000/tubedata/6J6.pdf>) from the GE data book.

One interesting fact about the 6J6 is that IBM used it in the 604 computer. Unfortunately, they found it to be not as reliable as they wanted it to be, but at first none of the tube manufacturers were interested in making a more robust version. This led IBM to set up a tube-making laboratory where they could experiment with designs. They developed a more reliable version of the 6J6 and finally convinced RCA to manufacture the tube. According to the author of the history of the 604 (<http://ed-thelen.org/comp-hist/IBM-604.html#new>), part of the concern is that IBM would decide to get into the tube business.

So, the next time you hear a signal that doesn't sound so perfect, remember that there just might be a story behind it. Ask the op about his transmitter, and listen to what he or she has to say.

## The Little Hamfest that Roared!

If you missed the ARCOS (Amateur Radio Club of Sabine / Central Gulf Coast Hurricane Net Hamfest, you missed a good time. This hamfest was held in the Florien Community Center, Many, Louisiana.

The only dealer was Palmetto Antennas and very few swap tables, but after this year, I am sure there will be more in following years to come. I think they had around 90 door prizes.

If you ever checked into the Central Gulf Coast Hurricane Net, you would have met a lot of the members that frequent that net, plus a lot of local hams that check in on other nets.

The Grand Prizes were won by the following:

John Stein won the Yaesu 8800R dual band and donated it to the Leesville club for emergency communications. Bill Garvy WB5LYB won the Yaesu 2800, and Jimmy Dees won the brand new \$100.00 bill.

The highlight and "grand finale" was taking up a collection of \$119.00 from the attendance to see Bill WB5LYB get hit in the face with a pie. Josie W5JPJ was the one that received to honor of doing that project and her aim was pretty good, right smack in the middle. Bill took it in stride and the monies collected went to the club.



One of the swap tables



Door prize table



Bill WB5LYB (before) and Bill (after), I think it was strawberry.

The food served was excellent and for \$4.00 you could not go wrong. Everybody had a GREAT TIME!

## HOPE TO SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

## 2009 Slidell Hamfest

Sponsored by the Ozone Amateur Radio Club-W5SLA

**Date:** July 18<sup>th</sup>

**Time:** 8:00 AM - 2:30 PM

**Location:** Slidell City Auditorium - Take I-10 Exit 265 Fremaux Avenue into Slidell to 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, take left on 2<sup>nd</sup> and go one block, the auditorium is on the left.

**Entrance Fee:** \$5.00 and you get 1 free raffle ticket to main prizes.

**Talk-in:** 147.27/87(-) PL 114.8

**Grand Prizes:**

1<sup>st</sup> - Yaesu 857D

2<sup>nd</sup> - Yaesu 7800

3<sup>rd</sup> - Yaesu VX3R

Hourly Door Prizes and Ladies Raffle.

**Commercial Dealers:**

MFJ, Houston Amateur Radio, MCM Computers, B<sup>2</sup> Antennas, Bamcom and Sign Man of Baton Rouge.

**Flea Market Tables:**

\$7.00 each which includes 2 chairs, first come first served.

**VE Testing-QLF Contest-Forums WAS Card Checker**

**For more information e-mail:**

Mike King W5PY

w5py@arrl.net

**Check out website:**

<http://www.w5sla.net/>

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The AARA would like to welcome the following first time new members to our club.

GALEN WILSON KF5BET  
APPIGAIL WILSON KF5BEW

## AARA General Meeting

July 2, 2009

7:00 PM

Red Cross Building  
101 N. Pat St. Scott, LA



## The Four Bones

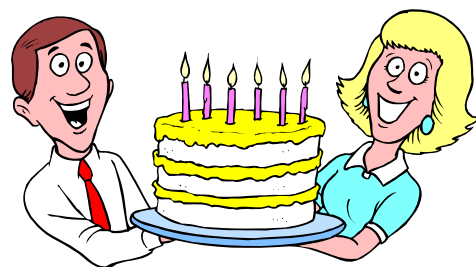
The structure of an organization is made up of four kinds of bones. There are Wishbones, who spend all their time wishing somebody else would do something about this, or something about that. There are the Jawbones, who do all the talking, but very little of anything else. Next comes the Knucklebones, who knock everything that others are trying to do. Finally, there are the Backbones, who get under the load and do the work. What part of the organization's structure are you? If you are a Wishbone, Jawbone, or Knucklebone, what kind of a Ham are you? Are you happy?

Take a good look at the Backbones in your radio club. These people are not always the board members, but they certainly are the "doers" in the club. I can well imagine that the Backbones also have happy family lives, because it seems that hard work and self-confidence seem to extend into family and working partnerships as well. What constantly amaze me is the number of Backbones who spend long hours representing or working for the club. They seem to never tire making the Club's activities successful.

We hear a lot about getting involved. Take it from one who knows, getting involved is the best therapy there is for adjusting to the life of a Ham. You'll see a change for the better not only in yourself, but in your hobby and your club. You'll suddenly find people are friendlier, there is no spare time to wonder how to fill as there is work to do each and everyone of us in the club. But, most important of all, you will suddenly realize what you are doing for others. What a beautiful example to set for you children.

So why don't you take a personal inventory? If you are honest with yourself and find you are a Wishbone, Jawbone or Knucklebone, there is not time like the present to make the change so you, too, can become a Backbone. The dedicated, hard working Backbone will welcome you joining them. Only in this way can the Club continue to serve amateur radio and the community.

*Reprinted from "QUA/HAMnews" March 1991 which is published by the Bluegrass Amateur Radio Society, Inc., Lexington, Kentucky.*



7/01	CHARLES	K5UA
7/02	EUGENE	WA5KNC
7/18	JOY	N5YCS
7/22	RICK	N5YLM
7/23	RALPH	WB5GAF
7/27	CALVIN	KD5JCT
8/07	JEAN	KB5UDF
8/07	PHOEBE	KC5VRN

Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership applications, this is why some may not be on the list.

## June Meeting VE Test Session Results

At the June 4<sup>th</sup> General Meeting, the following persons tested and received the following Technician Licenses:

**Rizwan Merchant** of Lafayette - KF5BNL.

**Matthew G. Triche** of Baton Rouge - KF5BNM.

**William B. Deville** of Carencro - KF5BNN.

**Joyce McGuire** of New Iberia - KF5BNO.

**Dustin K. Muse** of Krotz Springs - KF5BNP.

VE's for this session were:

Danny Griffith K5ARH  
Rick Breaux N5RLM  
Greg Dolan K5LFT  
Roland Guidry NA5Q  
Archie Hill W5AG

## July 2009 Special Events & Contests

July 1-5	K2A thru K2M—US Original 13 Colonies Group Special Event—See article in this newsletter.
July 4	Too many Special Events stations on the air to list.
July 11	IARU HF World Championship
July 8-12	N5UDE—Nude Awareness Celebration, McDade, TX
June 17-21	WA2LQO—Celebrating the Apollo 11 40th Anniversary of landing on the moon.
July 18-26	NA8SA—40th Anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing.
July 24-26	W9IMS—16th running of the Brickyard 400
July 25	N4P—Anniversary of Great Smokey Mountain National Park.
July 25	IOTA Contest

Check July QST pages 66 and 91 for more detailed contests and special event activities.

## June 2009 ACADIANA AREA 2 METER NET REPORTS

NET	SESSIONS:	TOTAL CHECK-INS:	TOTAL TRAFFIC:	TOTAL TIME: Minutes	Net Manager
OAARC Net - Opelousas Area Amateur Radio Club	NO REPORT FILED				N5LRZ Ray
AARA Monday Night Net	5	82	0	150	KN5GRK Herman
Acadiana ARES Net	REPEATER DOWN				N5LRZ Ray
Vermillion Parish ARES Net	4	38		79	KE5JXC Arnold
HEAL Net      *(M=Medical G=Guest)	2	* M 8 / G 10	0	25	KE5JKD Larry

Lagniappe . . . is something thrown in, gratis, for good measure.      --Mark Twain.

### Correction

In last month's LARC, it seems that Galen D. Wilson KF5BET had somehow did not appear on the Children's Museum of Acadiana VE test session. I apparently did not have my "text frame" set right. I apologize for this overlook.

Herman KN5GRK  
LARC Editor

### A Celebrity in our Mist

**Charlie Morrison**, KI5XP made it in the July issue of QST in the 2009 ARRL RTTY Roundup (see page 84). Charlie came out top in the Single-Op High Power (SOHP) with a score of 2211 in the W/VE Division. He was sponsored by AARA Club member Roland Guidry NA5Q. The article reads:

Four out of the five all-time QSO totals were set this year in High-Power. Charlie, KI5XP had 2211; Denis, W1UE, at W1KM had 2164; Mike, K4GMH, 2026; and Ty, K3MM, had 2018, Dennis, W1UE, operating at W1KM again, wins the W7RM Memorial plaque. Charlie held off Ty, K3MM, who placed third overall in High-Power. Placing fourth this year was Mike, K4GMH.

### A different idea...

#### 4<sup>th</sup> of July SPECIAL EVENT (13 Colonies "On the Air")

Look for special event stations from all the thirteen 1776 original colonies to be on the air between 1300z, from July 1st to 0400z July 5<sup>th</sup>. A full color certificate printed on heavy card stock or parchment paper (with a map and the state flags of all the 1776 colony states) will be available to each station who works one or more or ALL of the special event stations. The thirteen 1776 original colonies (their special event callsign) are: CT (K2D), DE (K2E), GA (K2G), MA (K2H), MD (K2F), NC (K2J), NJ (K2I), NH (K2K), NY (K2A), RI (K2C), PA (K2M), SC (K2L) and VA (K2C).

Activity will be on all bands (except 60m and the 30/17/12m). The Colony stations will be operating on or near the "13" of each band (Eg. 14213, 14313, 7213, et.). Also, 2 meters and 6 meters simplex frequencies are encouraged. For this event 2 meter repeater contacts WILL be allowed.

For more details and picture of the certificate, please visit their Web page at:

<http://home.comcast.net/~dzabawa/ThirteenColonies.htm>

### 2009 New Orleans Hamfest Update

First I would like to thank everyone for their support with the 2009 New Orleans Hamfest. The response has been out standing.

With that said, we already have half of the tables for the dealers and flea market reserved, and we are only 3 months away from the Ham Fest. When we do sell out of tables inside, we will have a flea market out side in the front parking lot.

Here are a list of some of the dealers coming for the Hamfest:

Cedar City Sales  
M&M Computer Sales  
The Sign Man  
Palmetto Antennas  
Radio Shack

We are also working in trying to get Houston Amateur Radio Supply to come.

And for the ladies:

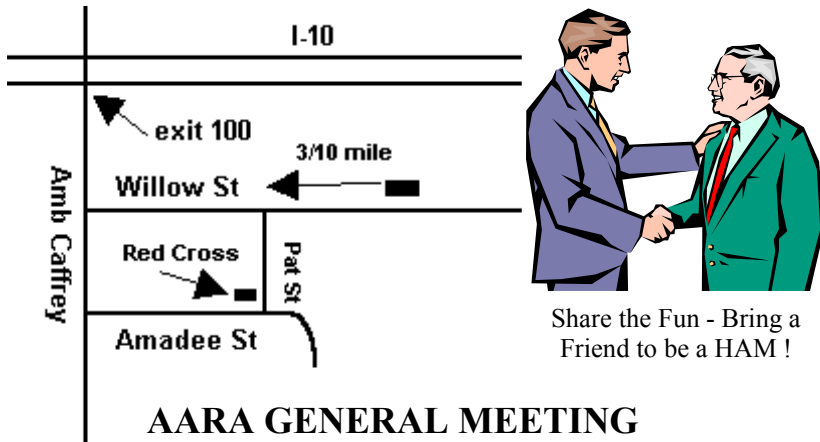
Mary Kay and Jackie's Custom Necklaces.

If anyone knows of any ladies who may be interested in selling jewelry, crafts, etc at the 2009 New Orleans Hamfest . Please have them contact me at:

Joen5ozg@bellsouth.net  
Thanks & 73's  
Joe Glorioso N5OZG  
Visit our website at:  
[cqtopia.com/nolahamfest/](http://cqtopia.com/nolahamfest/)

**Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.**  
**P. O. Box 51174**  
**Lafayette, LA 70505-1174**

Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



**AARA GENERAL MEETING**  
**Thursday July 2, 2009 - 7:00 PM**  
**VE Testing at 6:00 PM - Refreshments - Door Prizes**  
**Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat St., Scott, LA**  
**Lunch Bunch**  
Golden Corral - Amb. Caffery - Lafayette, LA  
Check 146.820 - repeater for info.

COMPLEMENTARY  
ISSUE



## **Crawfish Casserole**

(submitted by Joy Breaux N5YCS via XYL of Lee Fontenot WB5NJG)

- |                            |                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 lbs. Crawfish tails      | 1/2 cup onions, chopped       |
| 1 package - yellow rice    | 1/2 stick of butter           |
| 1 can Golden Mushroom soup | 1/3 cup green onions, chopped |
| 1 can Rotel tomatoes       | 1/2 cup bell pepper, chopped  |

Sauté Bell pepper and onions in butter. Cook & cool rice according to directions on the package.  
Mix Rice, Crawfish tails, soup, Rotel and sautéed vegetables.  
Bake in pre-heated oven at 350° for 1/2 hour.

Serves 6

If you have a recipe that you would like to submit, please send it to:

Herman KN5GRK  
[Kn5grk@bellsouth.net](mailto:Kn5grk@bellsouth.net)



## **FCC LICENSE INFO SERVICE**

The FCC toll-free (WATS) number for Amateur Radio license inquiries - including inquiries about vanity and new call signs. The number, 888-225-5322, will connect callers to the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at 202-414-1250 or [ulscmm@fcc.gov](mailto:ulscmm@fcc.gov).  
Web site:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

New callsign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>

The mailing address to the FCC is: Federal Communications Commission, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg PA 17325-7245